

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 133

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Larry W. Locke on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm over their years of industry to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such dedicated pulpit minister is Dr. Larry W. Locke, who has led the thousand-plus member congregation of College Hills Church of Christ, formerly College Street Church of Christ, in Lebanon for thirty years; he has also served other churches in Tennessee, Ohio, and West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Minister Locke, who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors, has taken a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, born and reared in Shelbyville, Larry Locke was educated at David Lipscomb University and Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, he has led his congregation in a widespread outreach in the community, participating in community activities and demonstrating compassion in ways too numerous to list; and

WHEREAS, with warmth and caring, Minister Locke has counseled those suffering from addictions, abuse, broken marriages, financial failures, and other difficulties; he has visited the sick, the grieving, and the incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, Minister Locke has preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ and studied and taught the Bible weekly; he has baptized hundreds who have come to obey the Gospel; and

WHEREAS, he has frequently reminded his listeners of the manifold blessings of life given by God and he has set the standard of Christian thought and behavior for his congregation and for his community; and

WHEREAS, professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Locke is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife of forty-three years, the former Carol Waller, who is the Children's Minister for College Hills; they are the loving parents of two exemplary citizens, Jason, married to the former Julie Anderson, and Suzanne, married to Stephen Norfleet, and the proud grandparents of Jericho and Jacob Locke and Caleb and Ethan Norfleet; and

WHEREAS, Minister Locke exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career as a public servant, Minister Locke has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his friends, his family, and the many and diverse members of his congregation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Larry W. Locke our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, commend him for his many years of honorable service and spiritual inspiration to his community, and wish him every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.